Incentives to Farmers

550. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) details of the incentives provided to farmers of the country to sell their production out;

(b) whether it is a fact that the incentives being provided at present have failed to bring the procurement of foodgrains to the desired level; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to further boost the procurement of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a): In the case of wheat, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the current 1992-93 rabi marketing season was increased by Rs. 25|- per qtl. from Rs. 225|- to Rs 250|- per qtl. The Central Government also paid an incentive bonus of Rs. 25|- per quintal over and and above the MSP for sale of wheat by farmers to the public procuring agencies during the period 1st April to 30th June, 1992. In addition, the State Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan paid State Bonus of Rs. 5/- per quintal for this purpose, which was Rs. 25|. per quintal in case of Madhya Pradesh. As regards paddy, the MSP was raised by Rs. 40-| per quintal for the current 1992-93 kharif marketing season as compared to the previous year.

(b) The procurement of foodgrains under price support operations being totally voluntary, no procurement target can really be fixed. A quantity of 63.80 lakh tonnes of wheat and 104.49 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) has been procured upto 22.2.1993 in the current 1992-93 rabi and kharif marketing seasons respectively.

(c) The procurement price of wheat has been fixed at Rs. 330|- per quintal (including an incentive bonus of Rs. 25| per quintal rabi marketing seasons. As purchases of foodgrains under the price support operations are voluntary, the Government takes all steps like giving a remunerative price to the farmer, opening a large number of purchase centres, prompt payment etc. to ensure a good procurement.

Building|Houses under the Possession of Food Corporation of India in South Delhi

551. SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India hires houses/buildings on time bound lease deeds and monthly rental basis for their use;

(b) if so, what is the total number of buildings|houses still under the possession of Food Corporation of India in South Delhi after the lapse of the lease period despite repeated requests by the owners to vacate these buildings|houses for their personal use on extreme compassionate grounds; and

(c) by when such properties are likely to be vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A list of buildings|houses hired by the Food Corporation of India in South Delhi for various purposes is given in the Annexure. Only owners of the buildings/houses mentioned at S. Nos. 3 & 4 of the Annexure, have been requesting for vacation of their premises for their personal use.

(c) Since the premises at S. Nos. 3 and 4 of the Annexure are being utilised by the Food Corporation of India for the purpose of accommodating officers of the Corporation during the course of various trainings, it is not possible to vacate them till the Food Corporation of India's own training complex at Gurgaon becomes available. The construction of this complex is in progress.